Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Original) An isolated nucleic aid molecule which codes for a protein comprising the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, which codes for a protein ~~exclusively~~ consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, which is a DNA molecule.

Claim 4. (Original) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a base sequence according to SEQ ID NO 2 or a base sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 2 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 5. (Original) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a base sequence according to SEQ ID NO 3 or a base sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 3 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 6. (Original) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a base sequence according to SEQ ID NO 4 or a base sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 4 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, which ~~exclusively~~ consists essentially of a base sequence selected from the group ~~of the base sequences~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO 2, SEQ ID NO 3, SEQ ID NO 4 and a base sequence which differs from any of the said base sequences only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to 7~~.

Claim 9. (Original) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising at least one further nucleic acid molecule coding for a protein selected from the group of proteins encoded by the following Acremonium chrysogenum genes: pcbAB, pcbC, cefD1, cefD2, cefEF and cefG.

Claim 10. (Original) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules coding for the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: pcbAB and pcbC, respectively.

Claim 11. (Original) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules coding for the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: cefD1 and cefD2, respectively.

Claim 12. (Original) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules coding for the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: cefEF and cefG, respectively.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) The vector according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 8 ~~to 12~~, which is suitable for transformation of a host cell.

Claim 14. (Original) The vector according to claim 13, wherein the host cell is a microorganism.

Claim 15. (Original) The vector according to claim 14, wherein the microorganism is Acremonium chrysogenum.

Claim 16. (Currently amended) A host cell which has been transformed with a vector according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 8 ~~to 15~~.

Claim 17. (Original) The host cell according to claim 16, which is a microorganism.

Claim 18. (Original) The host cell according to claim 17, wherein the microorganism is Acremonium chrysogenum.

Claim 19. (Original) A process for production of cephalosporin C, comprising culturing of a host cell according to claim 18 under conditions suitable for effecting production of cephalosporin C by the host cell.

Claim 20. (Original) The process according to claim 19, further comprising isolation of the cephalosporin C produced.

Claim 21. (Original) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) The protein according to claim 21, which ~~exclusively~~ consists <u>essentially</u> of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.